

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 ACDA-19 OMB-01 CU-04 EURE-00

DRC-01 NEA-14 /154 W

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P R 291450Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3658

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2660

GENEVA FOR CSCE DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, EC, US, UK

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL ON EC

COOPERATION AND EC-US CONSULTATIONS

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1. SUMMARY. IN PRESS CONFERENCE REVIEWING HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE (DETAILS SEPTE) FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL SAID GON WOULD BE RE-EXAMINING QUESTION OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION. HE SUPPORTED NEED FOR US-EC CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO EC DECISION-MAKING EVEN THOUGH FINAL EC DECISION MIGHT NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH US VIEWS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MAY 28 PRESS CONFERENCE REVIEWING FIRST YEAR AS FOREIGN MINISTER, FONMIN VAN DER STOEL TOLD PRESS THAT IF IMPASSE IN EC CONTINUED GON WAS PREPARED "RE-EXAMINE WHETHER SAME MEASURE OF PROGRESS IN EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION IS POSSIBLE AS IN THE PAST". FONMIN OBSERVED THAT POLITICAL COOPERATION WAS NOT FORMALLY CONNECTED WITH EC ALTHOUGH SAME COUNTRIES PARTICIPATED IN IT. HE COMMENTED THAT "EXPANSION OF POLITICAL COOPERATION IS IN GREAT MEASURE TIED UP WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING THE EC OFF THE GROUND AGAIN". VAN DER STOEL SAID PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF GON-EUROPEAN POLICY IS TO PREVENT EC DISINTEGRATION RESULTING FROM ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WITH WHICH VARIOUS MEMBER COUNTRIES, BUT ITALY IN PARTICULAR, ARE CONFRONTED.

3. VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT CONTACTS WITH HIS BRITISH COLLEAGUE CALLAGHAN LED HIM TO HOPE BRITAIN WOULD SEEK SOLUTION TO DIFFICULTIES CAUSING BRITAIN'S DESIRE TO RENEGOTIATE ITS EC ENTRY CONDITIONS, WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF EXISTING TREATIES. VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO AGREE ON DIFFERENT BRITISH FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY, EC TREATY PROVISIONS THEMSELVES MUST REMAIN INTACT.

4. FONMIN SAID THAT IF SATISFACTORY SOLUTION WERE FOUND FOR MATTERS WHICH COULD NOT BE POSTPONED, E.G. EUROPEAN MEDITERRANEAN POLICY AND ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN STATES, THERE WOULD BE A BASIS FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. VAN DER STOEL SAID MANY GOOD INTENTIONS HAD EMERGED FROM COPENHAGEN SUMMIT IN 1973 BUT ONLY TWO DAYS LATER WHEN INTENTIONS HAD TO BE TRANSLATED INTO DECISIONS, IMPASSE HAD ARISEN WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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HE SAID HAD NOT BEEN BROKEN "TO THIS DAY".

5. VAN DER STOEL DENIED GON HAD ALLOWED ITSELF TO BE "BOXED IN" ON VARIOUS ISSUES WORKED OUT AS PART OF THE EC POLITICAL COOPERATION OR THAT IT JOINED THE EC MAJORITY WITHOUT RESISTANCE. HE NOTED THAT IN 11 OF 33 VOTES IN UNGA IN WHICH THE NINE HAD NOT VOTED EN BLOC, THE GON STANDPOINT HAD DIFFERED FROM THAT OF THE

MAJORITY OF ITS EC PARTNERS.

6. US-EC RELATIONS. FONMIN SAID THERE WAS "GROWING REALIZATION IN WE" THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH US ON QUESTIONS CONCERNING THEM BOTH WAS IN INTEREST OF BOTH EUROPE AND US. THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT NINE "SHOULD GO TO WASHINGTON FOR INSTRUCTIONS" BUT THAT NINE SHOULD LEARN US VIEWS BEFORE DECIDING ON OWN COURSE. IN ANSWER TO QUESTION, FONMIN SAID IF VIEWS OF NINE "WERE MOVING TOWARDS A CERTAIN FORMULA ", VIEWS OF US SHOULD BE SOUGHT PRIOR TO FINAL DECISION. BUT FONMIN COMMENTED FINAL DECISION NEED NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH AMERICAN VIEWS. HE STATED FLATLY THAT "NOT A SINGLE EC MEMBER STATE WANTS TO SUBJECT ITSELF TO AN AMERICAN VETO" AND ADDED EUROPEAN INTEGRATION WOULD NOT ALWAYS MEET WITH US APPLAUSE.

7. COMMENT: FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS TAKEN USUAL STEP (FOR DUTCH MFA AT LEAST) OF TRANSCRIBING VAN DER STOEL'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY PRESS CONFERENCE. WHEN TEXT AVAILABLE, EMBASSY WILL TRANSLATE MORE SIGNIFICANT SECTIONS AND POUCH THEM TO DEPARTMENT ATTENTION EUR/WE.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

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